

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**OCTOBER 1, 2019**

**PROCLAIMING GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MONTH**

The LA Promise Fund (LAPF) will embark on the fifth year of its Girls Build initiative which challenges young women from public middle and high schools across Los Angeles County (County) to team up to address disparities in their communities and effect social change. Teams will take on issues such as voter registration, youth empowerment, closing the digital divide, and gender equity.

This year, for the first time, LAPF is expanding its efforts to create Hello Future, a two-day interactive Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) experience in partnership with the Youth Mobile Festival (YoMo) Los Angeles. Integrated into YoMo’s footprint, Hello Future will set the stage for future innovators and entrepreneurs, convening more than 7,500 students at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The first day will feature keynote speeches and tech-themed panels for 5,000 girls and young women from middle and high schools. The second day will feature an experiential floor with more than 100 interactive exhibition stands and a Career Fair for middle, high school, and community college students.

Nearly 40,000 girls and young women have participated in past Girls Build events, including field trips, film premieres, STEM-related career events, and annual summits, which convene thousands of girls around the theme of women’s empowerment. This year’s annual summit, Hello Future, will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
OCTOBER 1, 2019  
PAGE 2**

and 24<sup>th</sup>, and will feature California's First Partner, filmmaker and advocate, Jennifer Siebel Newsom and Sal Kahn, founder of Kahn Academy.

Since 2015, the County has proclaimed October as Girls' Empowerment Month and provided funding for student transportation for Girls Build events. Given the significant impact Girls Build has had on the students who participated, as well as on their peers, families, schools, and communities, the County should once again provide its support.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

- 1) Proclaim the month of October 2019 as Girls Empowerment Month throughout the County of Los Angeles;
- 2) Encourage all County employees and residents to learn more about Girls Build by visiting <http://www.lapromisefund.org/girls-build>;
- 3) Find that approval of this action, as described herein, is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a "project" pursuant to Section 15378(b) of the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 4) Instruct the Director of the Department of Public Works to disburse up to \$65,000 from the Top of Pot allocation of the County's Proposition A Local Return Transit Program to the LA Promise Fund (LAPF) in order to reimburse LAPF for student transportation costs associated with the Girls Build events. Funding is included in the Transit Operations Fund Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget.

**###**

(EW/KK)